**REMARKS** 

The above preliminary amendment is made to introduce claims published in the

International Preliminary Examination Report, to remove multiple dependencies from claims

3-16 and 18-20 and to replace the phrase "characterised in that" with "wherein" in claims 1-20.

A new abstract page is supplied to conform to that appearing on the publication page of

the WIPO application, but the new Abstract is typed on a separate page as required by U.S.

practice.

Applicants respectfully request that the preliminary amendment described herein be

entered into the record prior to calculation of the filing fee and prior to examination and

consideration of the above-identified application.

If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this

communication, please contact Applicants' primary attorney-of record, John J. Gresens (Reg. No.

33,112), at (612) 371.5265.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: 5 October 2004

JJG:hjm

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